

**Amendments to and Listing of Claims**

Please amend claim 1, so that the claims read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A polymer-electrolyte fuel cell, comprising:

an electrolyte membrane-electrode assembly comprising a polymer-electrolyte membrane, and a pair of gas-diffusion electrodes sandwiching said polymer-electrolyte membrane;

a first electroconductive separator having a gas channel for supplying an oxidant gas to one of the gas-diffusion electrodes of said pair; and

a second electroconductive separator having a gas channel for supplying a fuel gas to the other of the gas-diffusion electrodes of said pair; wherein

the polymer-electrolyte fuel cell is characterized in that

at least one of said first electroconductive separator and said second electroconductive separator comprises a metal substrate and an electroconductive resin layer provided on said metal substrate and contacting said electrolyte membrane-electrode assembly, and

said electroconductive resin layer comprises a resin having at least one of water-repellant and basic radicals, and an electroconductive particulate substance which comprises a vitreous carbon powder having a specific surface area of less than  $100 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and having a mean particle diameter of approximately 5 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The polymer-electrolyte fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a layer including at least one selected from the group consisting of: metallic Zn, metallic Sn, metallic Al, Cr-containing compounds, Mo-containing compounds and W-containing compounds, between said metal substrate and said electroconductive resin layer.